134 Curtis Ave.
Williamstown, NJ 08094
9 July 1993 10:00am

Mr. Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, MD 21702

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

Thanks for your letter of the 30th ult. A short note before I depart on a weeks sailing...going out to the East, in the Atlantic. Probably 3-4 days out and likewise back. Should be fun.

I hope that you are bearing up well amidst this heatwave. And yes, I would have loved some of the flowers. I've done some planting here but was a bit behind the proper time line...so what I have most are impatiens and petunias.

I see my frustration with New Jersey shows already. You mentioned the cost of living...I have discovered NJ to be amazingly expensive, even considering my travel experience. Auto insurance for my pick-up now costs more for one year than did ALL of my insurance combined previously. I'm told the state *manages* the rates...another instance where the saying...*Hi, I'm from the government, I'm here to help*...assumes laughable proportions. Having complained, I must now admit, that being near ny niece and nephew for the first time overshadows the other.

As I mentioned previously, I cancelled my CompuServe account, so I can be of no help there. However, the system that I access has a fairly active JFK conference, comprised mostly of opinionizers. I don't imagine that you have time, but if you are interested I can print copies of the message base for you to chuckle over. If I encounter anything regarding Lifton I will pass it to you immediately, but I don't imagine there will be much there. Other than banality, what is Lifton's problem with Sylvia Meagher...I can understand ego and competition if the opponent is able to defend oneself, but that's obviously not possible in this instance. Given that her work pre-dated his by better than a decade and, insofar as I am able to determine, addressed only the work of the Commission, what is his problem?

I will contact Mr. Feinman as you suggested. I am assuming that you have no objection to my mentioning your name in the correspondence. BTW, I just concluded Walt Brown's book, *The People v. Lee Harvey Oswald*. I thought his words crediting you and Mrs. Weisberg were very nice. I intend to drop him a note telling him how much I enjoyed his work. I thought his comments about reading the available WC material was important. As I've learned from you, the more I delve into the material of the WC the more amazed I become. The thought occurred to me last evening that, given the WC never sat *in toto* to hear any one witness, how many of the depositions were ever read by any Commissioner. It was this thought that further triggered

the idea that the argument that *all points of view were heard*, i.e., those who disagreed with the findings, was simultaneously, and in varying degrees, true and false. It occurs to me that one must be very careful in this regard...one must consider to whom the *testimony* was provided, i.e., to the Commission or to an attorney in a deposition proceeding. What either did with the information is an entirely different matter.

I have also become intrigued with the significance of the *fruit of the poisoned tree* and its applicability to the WC...how much information was obtained in this fashion. For example the Paine household search and what it then lead to...all of the subsequent information obtained as a result of the original illegally obtained material must be excluded...have you any thoughts in this regard?

I discovered yesterday that CD1424 has been removed from the public record and is not included on my microfilm. The interesting aspect of its removal is that the removal documentation is dated 10/14/80 and there is no signature. In the location where a signature should be entered is simply the handwritten inscription *National Archives*. Do you have any idea what CD1424 is and what might be the worth of inquiry?

Well, enough of your time. Please give my regards to Mrs. Weisberg. I'll give you a call after I return from sailing...it should be a might cooler at sea!!

Sincerely,

John W. Masland